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PAGE 01 SAIGON 07617 041145Z

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ACTION EA 19

INFO GPM 03, SC 01, RSC 01, USIA 12, H 02, NSC 10, L 03, INR 07, P 04, CIA 04,
DOD 01, SP 02, SS 35, AID 30, SAH 03, SAL 01, IO 21, EUR 25, NSA 02,

RSR 01, /187 W

R 041010Z OCT 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8138
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK UNN
CINCPAC FOR POLAD UNN
AMCONSUL DANANG UNN
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE UNN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR	
REVIEWED BY <u>Jean J. Galt</u>	DATE <u>1/20/82</u>
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE _____	TS AUTH. _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐	
DECLASSIFIED ☐ R.L. ASALL ☒	
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SUBJ: LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS: BAC LIEU PROVINCE

REF: SAIGON 5929

1. OF THE SIXTEEN CANDIDATES WHO ORIGINALLY FILED FOR
THE ONE VIETNAMESE SEAT AND THE ONE CAMBODIAN LOWER
HOUSE SEAT ATSTAKE IN BAC LIEU, ONE CANDIDACY HAS

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 7617 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
BEEN REJECTED AND ONE PERSON HAS WITHDRAWN. THERE
ARE NOW 11 CANDIDATES FOR THE VIETNAMESE SEAT AND
THREE FOR THE CAMBODIAN. THOSE WHO WITHDREW OR WERE
REJECTED ARE: NGUYEN THAN THUY, B. JUNE 11, 1934,
GO CONG, CIVIL SERVANT, BAC LIEU, CANDIDATE FOR VIET-
NAMESE SEAT, REJECTED BECAUSE OF UNRESOLVED DRAFT

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 07617 041145Z

STATUS: LAM XEM, MARCH 16, 1931, BAC LIEU, ARVN SERGEANT, WITHDREW POSSIBLY BECAUSE HE WAS UNABLE TO GET LEAVE FROM ARVN.

2. LEADING CANDIDATES FOR THE VIETNAMESE SEAT:

NGUYEN XUAN THU, B. JUNE 18, 1932, BAC LIEU, PRIVATE EMPLOYEE IN SAIGON; HE IS RUMORED TO BE FINANCED FROM SAIGON (SOURCE UNSTEATED) AND SUPPORTED BY PROVINCIAL AUTHORITIES.

TRUONG HUU THANH, JUNE 20, 1908, BAC LIEU, MEMBER OF BAC LIEU PROVINCE COUNCIL; THAN G RESPECTED AND REPORTEDLY WELL ABLE TO FINANCE HIS CAMPAIGN. TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN, CONSIDER HIM A STRONG CANDIDATE.

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 7617 C N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
CAO TRIEU MAN, DECEMBER 1, 1921, BAC LIEU, MEMBER OF BAC LIEU PROVINCE COUNCIL; ALSO RHPCTED, BUT LACK OF FUNDS IS DRAW-
BACK. THE TWO CANDIDATES FROM THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL, THANH AND MAN, MAY TAKE VOTES FROM EACH OTHER.

DUONG VAN BA, APRIL 9, 1942, BAC LIEU, PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHER IN BAC LIEU; HE WAS HUONG'S REPRESENTATIVE IN BAC LIEU DURING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN WHICH HUONG FINISHED BEHIND BOTH THIEU AND DZU.

LAM HOANG HON, JUNE 13, 1928, BAC LIEU, CIVIL SERVANT IN BAC LIEU FINANCE OFFICE.

3. OTHER CANDIDATES FOR VIETNAMESE SEAT:

LAM VAN Y, B. DECEMBER 3, 1903, BAC LIEU, CVT CADRE IN SAIGON;

NGO TRUONG BINH, SEPTEMBER 1, 1922, BAC LIEU, MERCHANT IN BAC LIEU;

MRS. TA THI NGUYET, JANUARY 30, 1932, BAC LIEU, HOUSEWIFE IN SAIGON;

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PAGE 03 SAIGON 07617 041145Z

PAGE 4 RUMJIR 7617 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NGUYEN VAN TAY, JANUARY 26, 1919, BAC LIEU, SOLDIER STATIONED
IN SAIGON;

KIEU DUC TRONG, DECEMBER 18, 1923, SONTAY, PRIVATE SCHOOL
TEACHER IN BAC LIEU;

LUU VAN HAI, MARCH 5, 1919, BAC LIEU, MERCHANT IN BAC LIEU;

4. CANDIDATES FOR CAMBODIAN SEAT:

THACH PHEN, B. MARCH 16, 1931, BAC LIEU, CAMBODIAN AFFAIRS
OFFICER IN BA XUYEN, CONSIDERED BY MANY IN BOTH BAC LIEU AND
BA XUYEN TO BE THE STRONGEST CANDIDATE.

DAO SA VONG, MARCH 12, 1926, BAC LIEU, SOLDIER STATIONED
IN BAC LIEU;

KIM EM, DECEMBER 15, 1926, VINH BINH, SOLDIER STATIONED
IN BAC LIEU.

5. INTEREST IN LOWER HOUSE ELECTIONS IS LESS EVIDENT IN BAC
LIEU THAN IN MOST AREAS IN THE DELTA, AND CANDIDATES HAVE NOT
GENERATED MUCH ENTHUSIASM THUS FAR. COMMENT OFTEN HEARD IS

PAGE 5 RUMJIR 7617 C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
THAT SAIGON MONEY AND PRESSURE WILL BE DECISIVE IN DETERMINING
OUTCOME, AND THAT AS NOTED THU WILL BE THE BENEFICIARY. PRO-
VINCIAL COUNCIL MEMBERS THANH AND MAN ARE BETTER KNOWN THAN
THU, HOWEVER, AND ARE ALSO CONSIDERED LEADING CONTENDERS.

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